



# National Fire Plan

## Managing the Impact of Wildfires on Communities and the Environment

## Community Assistance Programs

As the nation's demographics change, developed areas and individual home sites increasingly extend into wildland areas. Community involvement is a critical element in restoring damaged landscapes and reducing fire hazards near homes and communities. Community assistance programs focus on building state and community capacity to develop and implement citizen-driven solutions that will lessen local vulnerability to risks associated with wildland fires.

### Community Assistance Budget Summary (\$ in thousands)

| National Fire Plan                  | FY 2001<br>Final<br>USDA & DOI | FY2002<br>USDA-FS | FY2002<br>DOI | FY 2002<br>Total<br>USDA & DOI |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Rural Fire Assistance               | \$9,978                        | n.a.              | \$10,000      | \$10,000                       |
| State Fire Assistance               | \$75,328                       | \$81,693          | n.a.          | \$81,693                       |
| Volunteer Fire Assistance           | \$13,251                       | \$13,315          | n.a.          | \$13,315                       |
| Economic Action Programs            | \$12,472                       | \$12,472          | n.a.          | \$12,472                       |
| Community & Private Land Assistance | \$34,923                       | \$0               | n.a.          | \$0                            |

### Rural Fire Assistance (Department of the Interior)

Department of the Interior funding will be used to provide technical assistance, training, supplies, equipment, and public education support to rural fire departments, thus enhancing firefighters safety and strengthening wildland fire protection capabilities.

Assistance program information.

## State Fire Assistance (USDA Forest Service)

USDA Forest Service funding will provide for technical and financial assistance to the states to enhance firefighting capacity at the state and local levels. This funding also supports fire hazard mitigation projects in the wildland urban interface and will facilitate an expanded series of FIREWISE workshops to help communities across the country implement FIREWISE practices that reduce fire risk. It will also support an expanded national public service fire prevention program. For more information contact your state representative, which can be found on the [National Association of State Foresters website](#).

## Volunteer Fire Assistance (USDA Forest Service)

USDA Forest Service funding will provide assistance, through the states, to volunteer fire departments to improve communication capabilities, increase wildland fire management training, and purchase protective fire clothing and firefighting equipment. For more information contact your state representative, which can be found on the [National Association of State Foresters website](#).

## Economic Action Programs (USDA Forest Service)

USDA Forest Service funding will provide for Economic Action Programs that work with local communities to identify, develop, and expand economic opportunities related to traditionally underutilized wood products and to expand the utilization of wood removed through hazardous fuel reduction treatments. Information, demonstrations, application development, and training will be made available to participating communities. For more information contact a Forest Service Regional Representative.